

What You Need To Know

When are wilderness permits required?

This year wilderness permits are required on some wilderness trails in the Mount Jefferson, Mount Washington and Three Sisters wildernesses from May 22-September 25,2020. Every year the permit season on these trails will begin on the Friday prior to Memorial Day and end on the last Friday in September.

How do you get a wilderness permit?

All reservations for a permit must be made through **Recreation.gov** either on-line or over the phone.

Reservations for permits will open this year on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. Every year the reservation period will open on the first Tuesday in April.

If people need help in getting a permit they can come to a Willamette or Deschutes office and get assistance.

What is the cost?

There is a \$1.00 processing charge per individual day-use permit and a \$6.00 processing charge per overnight-use permit for a trip up to 14 days.

In addition, a person parking a vehicle at a trailhead will still need either a NW Forest Pass or a daily parking permit.

How will permits be made available?

Overnight Use Availability:

- 40% full season available on April 7.
- 60% available on a 7-day rolling window.

Day Use Availability:

- 20-50% full season available on April 7.
- 50-80% available on a 7-day rolling window.

What is the cancellation policy for a permit? |

If you decide not to use your permit, we encourage you to cancel your permit to allow others to reserve it. The processing charges for permits through Recreation.gov cannot be refunded.

Where are permits required? Overnight Use

All overnight use in the Mt. Jefferson, Mt.
 Washington, and Three Sisters wildernesses.

Day Use

Day use permits are required at the following trailheads:

Three Sisters Trailheads

- Scott
- Obsidian
- Sisters Mirror
- Devils Lake/Wickiup
- Green Lake/Soda Creek
- Todd Lake
- Crater Ditch
- Broken Top
- Tam McArthur Rim
- Lava Camp

Mt. Jefferson Trailheads

- Pacific Crest Trail Breitenbush/Breitenbush Lake
- South Breitenbush
- Whitewater
- Pamelia Lake
- Marion Lake
- Duffy Lake
- Jack Lake

Mt. Washington Trailheads

- Pacific Crest Trail McKenzie Pass
- Benson/Tenas

Permit Exceptions:

Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) Long Distance permit, for hikers traveling more than 500 miles along the PCT.

Hunters holding valid hunting tags for the following hunts:

- West High Cascade Hunt (119A)
- General archery deer and elk hunt; however, exemption is only for day use.

Volunteers, while volunteering in an official capacity with the Forest Service.

What about areas that don't require this type of permit?

Where limited entry wilderness permits are not required - free, self-issue permits are required as they have been in the past. .



Changes coming to Central Cascades Wildernesses

Wilderness areas on the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests provide a diversity of outdoor recreation. In recent years, overall visitor use has increased tremendously, with some Central Cascade wilderness areas experiencing over 500% increase in visitor use.

Along with more visitors, people have tended to concentrate on a small subset of trails, which intensifies the impacts of increasing use.

To meet the Forest Service's responsibilities under the Wilderness Act to protect the wilderness for current and future generations, the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests made a decision in May 2019 to put day-use limits on 19 of the 79 trailheads in the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson and Mt. Washington wildernesses and put overnight use limits on all 79 trailheads in those three wildernesses.

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Wilderness Permits are reservable on

RECREATION.GOV Toll Free: 1-877-444-6777 TDD: 1-877-833-6777

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United States Department of Agriculture

Central Cascades Wilderness Areas

Wilderness Permit System





Forest Service

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